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### GOV. WARFIELD ON MARRIAGE.

He Thinks 26 the Proper Age at Which to Make Vows.

Gov. Warfield, of Maryland, has backed down as a matrimonial adviser to the girls of Maryland. Some time ago he told the high school girls of Wilmington that they should not have anything to do with Cupid until they had attained the discretionary age of 26 years. Now, to avoid the storm, the Governor, E. WARFIELD, nor cries "Joke." He has been pursued by indignant young and middle-aged females since his declaration and finally was pinned down and asked to explain.

"That remark to the young women of the Wilmington school was made playfully and without premeditation," he said. "What I said then was, 'My advice to you is not to marry too early. If asked the age when you should marry, I should say 26. That was the age of Mrs. Warfield when I married her, and I have said to my daughters that I should not give my consent to their marrying until they arrive at that age.'"

"Seriously speaking, I think that many lives are made failures by persons marrying before their characters have been formed. Young people are impressionable and romantic, and if left to their own free will are apt to rush into matrimony without properly considering the grave responsibilities of married life. Many cases have come under my observation where youthful and hasty marriages have resulted in unhappiness, discontent and lives of drudgery. The old saying, 'Marry in haste and repent at leisure,' proves too often true."

"Young women and men should remember that the romantic attachments of youth generally are not lasting. I would not wish to be regarded as laying down iron-clad rules concerning the exact age when a girl should marry. It might be at 22, 24, 25 or 26 years—it all depends upon the physical and mental development of the girl. I meant rather to indicate that a girl should not marry until she was more than 21 and of an age to comprehend the responsibility of the marriage state."

### JAPANESE ARE ECCENTRIC.

Politeness the Rule, from the Ricksha Man to the Hotel Porter.

The native Japanese, particularly those who have not come into close contact with modern civilization, is distinguished as much by his natural courtesy and politeness as by his aversion to clothing. The peasants in the interior are especially noted for their punctiliousness in saluting one another; even ricksha men hurrying along the road with a passenger will sometimes stop to greet a friend, while a pretty woman receives a reverence indeed. This salutation is not merely a word or a nod, but a low bow and a flourish of that little mushroom hat, and the greater friends they are the lower the bow. In saying good-by two Japs never see each other's faces, both being so busily engaged in bending their backs. As soon as one straightens himself the other bows, going backward all the while, until they consider it polite to refrain.

When a foreigner passes through a village every person he meets, from the little child to the old man, will bow most profoundly, so that the passage partakes of the nature of a triumphal procession. Your waiter at the hotel, for would never think of turning his back until he had bowed himself to a respectful distance, while the number of salaams he makes while taking your order would wear out an ordinary back.

Another pleasant trait of these people is their unvarying hospitality and gaiety. You may enter any house and sit down and the host and his family gather about you, offering cakes and tea, all the while chattering like magpies. Any little incident that among Europeans would pass unnoticed is quite sufficient to send these merry folk into fits of laughter.

The rural Japanese as a rule wear as few clothes as the law allows, and since in some districts there is no law on this subject the result is obvious. In fact, the children wear nothing at all in summer, while the men and women have but a scant, very scant, apology for raiment. The national garb is, of course, the kimono, but this is often cast aside in favor of a short jacket and trousers, or among the fishermen and the farm laborers a handkerchief or other small rag. This scantiness of clothing, however, seems so natural that it rarely excites remark.

All the villages are remarkable for their cleanliness and neatness, and except for some of their sanitary arrangements are models of comfort and simplicity. Agriculture is carried on with the crudest implements, yet with a skill and care which have made a garden out of a land of barren mountains, while some of the workmen in regard to the arts of joinery and weaving might give valuable hints to our own people.

A short excursion through this country will give one a most pleasant impression of the land and its inhabitants, while their quaint courtesy and persevering industry render them worthy of considerable respect.

### Truth Comes Out.

"My dear Miss Gladys," said old Bullyon, "I love you dearly; but if my suit is not agreeable to you, please say so frankly and spare that ancient chestnut about being a sister to me." "I am very sorry, Mr. Bullyon," answered the fair maid, "but I do not love you well enough to pose as your sister. However, I have no objection to placing myself in a position to become your widow at an early date."

### Insurance in Russia.

In Russia the native insurance companies, who do the major portion of the country's business, insure the lives of single women and widows, but at a higher rate than those of men, and married women are only accepted in case their husbands are also insured.

VIRGIL M. BRAND, Pres.  
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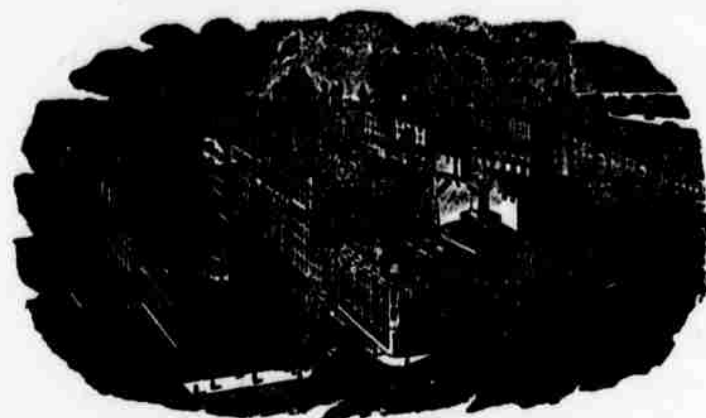
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